



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04012.0385

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of: )  
Lukas-Laskey et al. ) Group Art Unit: 1614  
Application No. 10/721,020 ) Examiner: K. Weddington  
Original Patent No. 5,760,069 )  
Original Issue Date: June 2, 1998 )  
Reissue Filed: November 25, 2003 )  
For: METHOD FOR TREATMENT FOR )  
DECREASING MORTALITY )  
RESULTING FROM CONGESTIVE )  
HEART FAILURE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY**

The Office Action dated October 21, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully considered. The period for reply has been extended to February 22, 2005, by a request for extension of one month and fee payment filed concurrently herewith.

**I. Reissue Application**

The Office notes that the reissue application was filed without an offer to surrender the original patent or a declaration that the original is lost or inaccessible. (Office Action, pg. 2.) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.178, as currently in force, the "application for reissue shall constitute an offer to surrender the patent...." See, e.g., Official Gazette (October 12, 2004). Accordingly, no further offer should be required.